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Western Normal Leader - December 7, 1911

Western Normal Leader Staff

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Western Normal Leader

Vol. 5

Hays, Kansas, Dec. 7, 1911

No. 7

The Model High School Building

The new high school building at the Normal, about of which appears on this page, has a significance in the development of institution much greater than the expansion of space and equipment which its erection implies.

Sometimes a discussion of educational purposes is difficult to follow and appreciate by any but a school man. But in more recent years the public have been speaking in plain language of what they expect of the schools. This building is in answer to the public and its purpose should be made clear to the public who are to pay for and patronize it, the people of the State of Kansas.

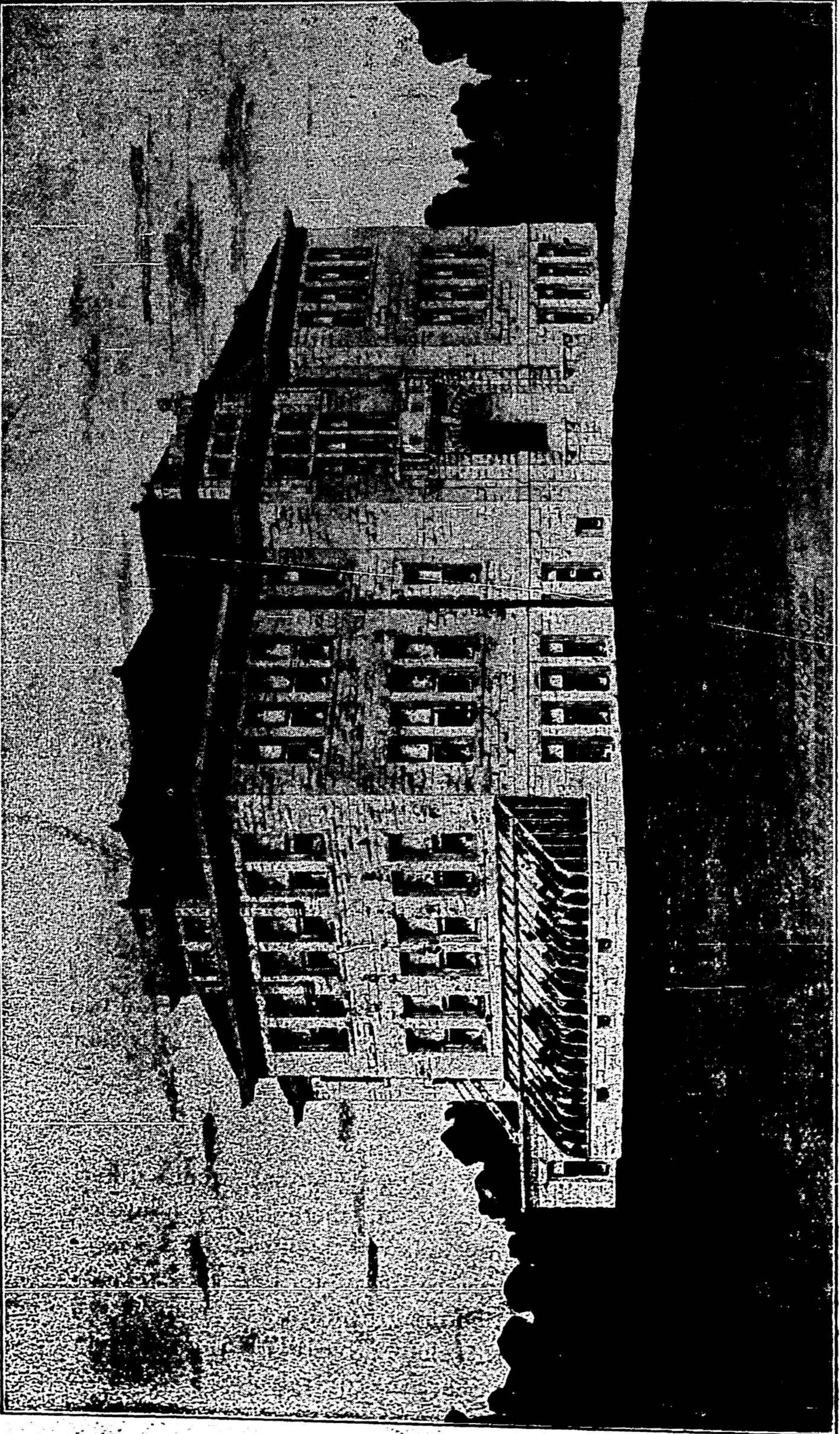
In the symmetrical division of the field of the education of teachers in Kansas, which is the function of the Normal school system, the state is not to be divided territorially like "All Gaul" into three parts, but of the three schools each is to be given a specialty. The Pittsburg Normal was created to be, as its name suggests, a manual training Normal school. With the momentum which its age and traditions give it, the Emporia Normal is to continue the seat of the traditional "humanities" and is rapidly pushing into the field

of higher education as a teachers' college.

The specialty which has always logically been ours is agriculture, located as the Hays Normal is, in a great region of general agriculture, in close relation to the Hays experiment station, and distant from industrial and populous centres. While all three schools are doing at least a generous minimum of manual training, domestic science and agriculture and all give most of their efforts to the traditional subjects, the dominant interest of each, as recognized by the president and board of regents, is as indicated. These interests of the three schools cover the entire field of normal training in the state, with little occasion for rivalry. And they suggest the evil of an increase of Normal schools which must result in competition and territorial division into "spheres of influence."

So we have agriculture at the Hays Normal.

Viewing the subject from a different aspect, there is a state law requiring every applicant for a teacher's certificate to pass an examination in agriculture, and another law that shall, after 1917, require of every teacher the equivalent of a four year



The Model High School Building

high school training. The field of higher or collegiate agricultural training is now occupied by the state agricultural college. The rural elementary schools at the other extremity are far too numerous, too isolated, and too conservative, and their teachers too transient to be affected to any noticeable degree by whatever agricultural effort the college may make. The high school, of which there is destined to be at least one good one available to every teacher, is the necessary intermediate step in this as in other educational matters. And since normal schools universally accept students from the elementary schools the Hays Normal like all others, maintains a high school course. As a leader in educational progress a normal school should anticipate the needs of the system it is expected to promote.

Hence an agricultural high school course at the Hays Normal.

The design of the new agricultural high school at the Hays normal was dictated by several requirements which together entitle it to the designation of a Model High School.

First and foremost the size of the appropriation, \$40,000, fixed a financial limit such as any county that may wish to build a high school should be able to pay. Secondly, it was seen that in the erection of the building a plan such as any modern high school that gives all the traditional courses as well as the modern courses might need, was desirable. The advantage of such a plan is that it accustoms our students and prospective teachers to a certain standard

of equipment and appointments such as they may expect to find or try to secure in the schools to which we wish to send them. A building so planned by one who might foresee all of the requirements of a symmetrically designed course of study including both vocational and non-vocational subjects should be an object worthy of examination by any school committee that contemplates building for a similar purpose, and it good for us to have them come. (It should be mentioned there is in preparation a description of this building including purposes, plans and specifications, for the use of schools contemplating building. This may be issued sometime by the state architect and the normal as a normal school bulletin.)

The building was so designed, the state architect enthusiastically appreciating and carrying out the purpose, besides adding architectural features that should make it a beautiful structure when finished. And the state seems to have been fortunate in the choice of the contractor as the latter is in his workmen and the present dull labor market. No doubt the last fact affected the bids of all the contractors who sought the job.

While the building is designed as a model high school it is not the purpose of the normal to use it as would a county high school housed in that building alone. By a slight modification of some of the partitions it has been found convenient to enlarge the space which in the county school would be given to the sciences and

the vocational subjects, thus permitting them to crowd out such features as gymnasium, assembly room, the languages, history, commercial work, and mathematics. In other words these latter will remain as now located while the sciences and vocational subjects will go into the new building. For an indefinite period the space designed for manual training in the new building will be occupied by the dining club in accordance with the terms of the appropriation.

Internally, several features have been provided for in this building. One of these is the correlation of the science work with the vocational work. Thus it is that botany, chemistry, physics, geography and the like will be so correlated with agriculture, domestic science, and manual training as to make them mutually helpful for both the student whose interest is mainly scientific and the one whose interest is economic. This purpose demands an arrangement of rooms giving easy access between the departments of pure science and applied science.

Another prominent feature will be the industrial display which is to go into the halls and corridors so that no visitor to the building but will be brought into contact with the industrial motive. Thus will it be sought to inculcate the fact that "Knowledge is valueless unless it can be carried over into the field of practice."

Josiah Main.

It is remarkable how strangely happy Lahman has been ever since the beginning of the new term. He is undoubtedly overjoyed at the increase in attendance.

Jas. Winchester's favorite song—
"Who'll be the next?"

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Western Normal Leader

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Staff.

May F. Gil, Editor-in-Chief.

Loree Cave, Associate Editor.

Sullivan Johnson, Business Manager.

Clarence King, Ass't. Bus. Mgr.

Colby vs. Hays.

On Thursday, November 30th, in one of the hardest fought battles ever witnessed in Hays, the town team defeated the Colby athletes to the tune of 12-0. The day was ideal, and as the teams assembled on the field, the spectators realized that the town boys had no "snap." The teams lined up, Hays kicking. Then a running fight was on for the first quarter, with no score. In the second quarter, with the ball nearly in the center of the field, Neiken broke away for a 40 yard gain. Then Colby strengthened and took the ball on downs, but seemed unable to get away. Irwin blocked and caught a punt and made the first touchdown. Miller kicked goal. Colby kicked off, and time was called. Hays again

kicked, and the ball was brought back about 20 yards. Both sides were fighting the old style football, but Miller got away with a punt for the second touch down. Miller again kicked goal. Colby kicked, and held the ball to the Hays 25 yard line but lost the ball on downs. Hays advanced the ball to the center of the field, and time was called. In the fourth quarter Colby pushed their way to Hays 5 yard line and attempted a short punt, but thru the heady work of Loreditch the score remained a minus quantity on the Colby board. Time was called and Hays had won.

An Ice Tragedy.

The Physical Trainers they piked.
Went out for a slide on the ice.

All except three

Who conscientiously

Went to the class to recite.

Miss Annasmith went to find King,

When Bice caught on to the thing

And told them to stay

And they had to obey.

But Kerns—No excuse can he bring.

Prof. Bice found the others that day

And told them what he had to say

Just take Chapter II.

And write up a few.

And report to the class the next day.

Now there ought to be some law you see

Enforced in the case of these three

To make all the tame ones

Help all the game ones

To write up their brief summaries.

No firearms are allowed at the Cave House except a Winchester and it is perfectly harmless as no one has been able to fire it.

Prin Picken went to Emporia the first of the week to attend a meeting of the Board of Regents.

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CLUB NOTES.

Ira Spencer and David Leighton have joined the bachelors club.

Prof. Smith is taking his meals at the club. "My wife has gone away."

Mr. E. F. McGlasson is a new club boarder.

NOTICE—All couples who viewed the stars Saturday night from the Normal steps are requested to register their names in a book furnished by Mr. Earle.

May Craige's face is more pleasant to behold than it was during vacation. Why?

Did you notice how Lawless Jean

Report of Normal Entertainment Fund for Month Ending December 1, 1911,

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand Nov. 1	\$317 97
Received from Lecture Course	42 65
" " Faculty Assessment	2 40
" " Boat fund	1 80
	<hr/>
	364 82

EXPENDITURES

Lyceum Lecture Bureau, Schil-	
kret Co.	\$100 00
Expense, Delegates to Pittsburg	45 05
" Reception Com., Clark	5 75
Headquarters State Association	75
Zeigler, Decorations, Banquet	1 13
Incidentals	70
	<hr/>
	153 38

Balance on hand Dec 1 211 44

C. A. SHIVELY.

Inaugural Ceremonies at Pittsburg.

(By One of the Delegates.)

The formal induction into office of Principal Geo. E. Meyers of the State Manual Training Normal School at Pittsburg occurred on Friday, Nov. 17. Dr. Meyers who assumed the duties of principal last August, has shown marked ability and tact as an administrator and has won the confidence of the faculty and students of the school. A spirit of hearty good will and loyalty characterized the exercises of the day. Greetings were brought by representatives of various school interests of the state. The Western State Normal School was represented by Principal Picken in his official capacity, and by Miss Stone and Mr. Shipley who were sent by the faculty. Ten members of the Emporia faculty and Messers Ingalls, Grass and Ham of the board of regents, completed the normal

The program of the day opened in the school auditorium at ten o'clock. Mr. Ingalls, president of the board of regents presiding. Excellent music was furnished by the school chorus under the leadership of Prof. Hoover, the efficient musical director of the institution. At ten minutes past two, Prof. Ward of Ottawa University, Ill., introduced President G. Stanley Hall of Clark University, Worcester, Mass., who delivered a scholarly address upon "Efficiency in Education." He showed how the test of efficiency is being applied to every phase of human activity. He drew copious illustrations from the industrial world and social organizations and agencies. The church is awakening to its failures and is revising its equipment and methods so as to meet more adequately social needs. The effici-

ency test must be applied to education. The test of efficiency in education is the capacity to prepare the individual for efficient social service. He pointed out several weak points in our educational system and showed how the application of scientific principles to school organization and methods is rapidly raising the standard of efficiency.

Dr. Clark is sixty-five years old and looks older, but says he feels much younger. He has the appearance of the scholar, but is delightful to meet. His voice is weak and rather husky but his flow of language is easy and his diction is well nigh perfect. He is a great man and we count it a privilege to have heard him. At the conclusion of Dr. Hall's address Mr. Ingalls introduced President Hill who in a few well chosen words welcomed Dr. Meyers into the Normal family and presented him to the audience in a carefully prepared address. Dr. Meyers pointed

out the relation of the Pittsburg school to the educational interests of the state and clearly outlined three distinct lines of policy, (1) keeping prominent and dominant the industrial pedagogic aim of the school; (2) the recognition of the importance of the cultural elements of the teacher's preparation; educational extension by lectures, institutes and correspondence courses. At the conclusion of the morning program luncheon was served in the gymnasium by the domestic department to about 250 guests. A bountiful and appetizing meal prepared and served by a lot of pretty school girls (all school girls are pretty) ought to convince the most skeptical of the value of the practical in education.

The argument never fails with a hungry man. Here is where domestic science has the advantage of other new phases of education before school boards and legislators. What arguments and objections can withstand the appeal of dainty hot biscuits and coffee, a neat white apron and a pretty smiling face.

Fireworks were resumed in the assembly room after luncheon. President Hill who presided at this session made a hit with the audience by promising to apply the "hot air compressor" to the speeches so as to get cut in time for the foot ball game at three o'clock. Thus did the really essential in education triumph over the non-essential.

Speeches of greeting and felicitation were made by Chancellor Strong for the University, President Price of Ottawa University for the colleges of the state, Supt. M. E. Pearson of Kansas City for the Teachers' association, Assistant State Superintendent Whittamore of the Department of Education, Dean McCormic for the Agricultural College, Principal Picken for the Western State Normal School, and Supt. Risdon of Independence for the teachers in the field.

The "compressor" worked beautifully and the audience was released in time to see Emporia College wall-lop the Pittsburg Normal to the tune of 39 to 0. But considering all the odds Pittsburg did well and played good foot ball.

In the evening a reception was tendered Mr. and Mrs. Meyers in the Normal Building. This closed the ceremonies and the visitors departed. Dr. Meyers, having been duly welcomed, installed, inaugurated, admonished and feliciated was left to pursue his work in the peace and quiet of his own bailiwick. un-

disturbed by the rabble from the outside.

Principal Meyers is especially well equipped for the important work he has undertaken and we predict great things for the Pittsburg school under his able and tactful leadership. May this auspicious beginning augur a long and successful career for Mr. Meyers as head of the State Manual Training Normal School.

Obiter Dictum.


A visitor cannot help being impressed with the public spirit and enterprise of Pittsburg. A school that can capitalize local pride and enterprise of the Pittsburg brand is fortunate.

The smoke of great smelters and the buzz of inter urban trolleys made one realize he was in the midst of a great industrial community.

Geographically, industrially, and climatically Hays and Pittsburg have little in common, But the Kansas type of people and the Kansas spirit spread themselves over the whole rectangular slice of territory, the geographies designate as Kansas land weld diversity into homogeneity. We needed no interpreter in Pittsburg. Its denizens speak the Kansas language, and we felt at home.

When about 30 miles south of Kansas City our train ran into a real rain storm. It possessed all the elements of a real genuine orthodox rain thunder, lightning with and water. This actually occurred within the borders of Kansas. We thought the incident would be a matter of interest to readers of the Leader.

Principal Meyers of Pittsburg, Professors Jewell and Triplett of Emporia and Prof. Van der Vries of the University are among the Kansas men who are graduates of Clark University and were students of Pres. G. Stanley Hall.



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